

## FLO

of enterprising greatly, as an unblemished conscience and inflexible resolution are above an accidental flow of spirits, or a sudden tide of blood. *Pope.*

3. A stream of diction; volubility of tongue.

Teaching is not a flow of words, nor the draining of an hour-glass; but an effectual procuring that a man know something which he knew not before, or to know it better. *South.*

FLOWER. *n. f.* [*fleur*, French; *flor*, *floris*, Latin.]

1. The part of a plant which contains the seeds.

Such are reckoned perfect flowers which have petals, a stamen, apex and style; and whatever flower wants either of these is reckoned imperfect. Perfect flowers are divided into simple ones, which are not composed of other smaller ones, and which usually have but one single style; and compounded, which consist of many florets, all making but one flower. Simple flowers are monopetalous, which have the body of the flower all of one intire leaf, though sometimes cut or divided a little way into many seeming petals, or leaves; as in borage, bugloss, &c. or polypetalous, which have distinct petals, and those falling off singly, and not all together, as the seeming petals of monopetalous flowers always do: but those are further divided into uniform and difform flowers: the former have their right and left hand parts, and the forward and backward parts all alike; but the difform have no such regularity, as in the flowers of sage, deadnettle, &c. A monopetalous difform flower is likewise further divided into, first, semi-fistular, whose upper part resembles a pipe cut off obliquely, as in the aristochia: 2d, labiate; and this either with one lip only, as in the acanthum and scordium, or with two lips, as in the far greater part of the labiate flowers: and here the upper lip is sometimes turned upwards, and so turns the convex part downwards, as in the chamæcissus, &c. but most commonly the upper lip is convex above, and turns the hollow part down to its fellow below, and so represents a kind of helmet, or monkhood; and from thence these are frequently called galeate, cucullate, and galeculate flowers; and in this form are the flowers of the lamium, and most verticillate plants. Sometimes also the lamium is intire, and sometimes jagged or divided. 3d, Corniculate; that is, such hollow flowers as have on their upper part a kind of spur, or little horn, as in the linaria, delphinium, &c. and the carniculum, or calcar, is always impervious at the tip or point. Compounded flowers are either, first, discous or discoidal; that is, whose florets are set together so close, thick, and even, as to make the surface of the flower plain and flat, which therefore, because of its round form, will be like a discus; which disk is sometimes radiated, when there is a row of petals standing round in the disk, like the points of a star, as in the matricaria, chamæmelum, &c. and sometimes naked, having no such radiating leaves round the limb of its disk, as in the tanacetum: 2d, planifolious, which is composed of plain flowers, set together in circular rows round the centre, and whose face is usually indented, notched uneven and jagged, as the hieracia, &c. 3d, fistular, which is compounded of many long hollow little flowers, like pipes, all divided into large jags at the ends. Imperfect flower, because they want the petals, are called stamincous, apetalous, and capillaceous; and those which hang pendulous by fine threads, like the juli, are by Tournefort called amentaceous, and we call them cat-tail. The term campaniformis is used for such as are in the shape of a bell, and infundibuliformis for such as are in the form of a funnel. *Miller.*

Good men's lives

Expire before the flowers in their caps,

Dying ere they sicken. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

With flow'r inwoven tresses torn,

The nymphs in twilight shade of tangled thickets mourn. *Milton.*

Beauteous flow'rs why do we spread

Upon the monuments of the dead?

Though the same sun with all-diffusive rays

Blush in the rose and in the diamond blaze,

We praise the stronger effort of his power,

And always set the gem above the flower. *Pope.*

If the blossom of the plant be of most importance, we call

it a flower; such are daisies, tulips, and carnations. *Watts.*

2. An ornament; an embellishment.

This discourse of Cyprian, and the excellent flowers of rhetoric in it, shew him to have been a sweet and powerful orator. *Hakewill on Providence.*

Truth needs no flow'rs of speech. *Pope.*

3. The prime; the flourishing part.

Alas! young man, your days can ne'er be long:

In flow'r of age you perish for a fong. *Pope's Horace Impr.*

4. The edible part of corn; the meal.

The bread I would have in flower, so as it might be baked

still to serve their necessary want. *Spenser on Ireland.*

I can make my audit up, that all

From me do back receive the flow'r of all,

And leave me but the brain. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*

The flowers of grains, mixed with water, will make a sort

of glue. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

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But by thy care twelve urns of wine be fill'd,

Next these in worth, and firm these urns be seal'd;

Be twice ten measures of the choicest flour

Prepar'd, ere yet descends the evening hour. *Pope's Odyssey.*

5. The most excellent or valuable part of any thing; quintessence.

The choice and flower of all things profitable the Psalms

do more briefly contain, and more movingly express, by reason

of their poetical form. *Hooker.*

Thou hast slain

The flower of Europe for his chivalry. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*

The French monarchy is exhausted of its bravest subjects;

the flower of the nation is consumed in its wars. *Addison.*

6. That which is most distinguished for any thing valuable

He is not the flower of courtesy; but, I warrant him, as

gentle as a lamb. *Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.*

FLOWER DE LUCE. *n. f.* A bulbous iris.

It hath a lily flower of one leaf, shaped like that of the

common iris: the point has three leaves, and the empalement

turns to a fruit shaped like that of the common iris. Its

root is bulbous. *Miller* specifies thirty-four species of this

plant; and among them the Persian flower de luce is greatly

esteemed for the sweetness and beauty of its variegated flowers,

which are in perfection in February, or the beginning of

March.

Crop'd are the flower de luces in your arms;

Of England's coat one half is cut away. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*

The iris is the flower de luce. *Peacocks.*

TO FLOW'ER. *v. n.* [*florir*, French, or from the noun.]

1. To be in flower; to be in blossom; to bloom; to put forth

flowers.

So forth they marched in this goodly fort,

To take the foliage of the open air,

And in fresh flowering fields themselves to sport. *Fairy Queen.*

Is, as it were, for endless memory

Of that dear Lord, who oft thereon was found,

For ever with a flow'ring garland crown'd. *Fairy Queen.*

Then herbs of every leaf, that sudden flower'd,

Op'ning their various colours. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. vii.*

Mark well the flow'ring almonds in the wood,

If od'rous blooms the bearing branches load. *Dryden's Georg.*

To leafless shrubs the flow'ring palms succeed,

And od'rous myrtle to the noisome weed. *Pope's Messiah.*

2. To be in the prime; to flourish.

Whilome in youth, when flower'd my youthful spring,

Like swallow swift, I wandered here and there;

For heat of heedless lust me did so sting,

That I of doubted danger had no fear. *Spenser's Pastoral.*

This cause detain'd me all my flow'ring youth,

Within a loathsome dungeon there to pine. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*

3. To froth; to ferment; to mantle, as new bottled beer.

Those above water were the best, and that beer did flower

a little; whereas that under water did not, though it were

fresh. *Bacon's Natural History, No. 385.*

An extreme clarification doth spread the spirits so smooth

that they become dull, and the drink dead, which ought to

have a little flowering. *Bacon's Natural History.*

4. To come as cream from the surface.

If you can accept of these few observations, which have

flower'd off, and are, as it were, the burning of many studious

and contemplative years, I here give you them to dispose

of. *Milton on Education.*

TO FLOW'ER. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To adorn with fictitious

or imitated flowers.

FLOW'ERAGE. *n. f.* [from flower.] Store of flowers. *Di.*

FLOW'ERET. *n. f.* [*fleur*, French.] A flower; a small

flower.

Sometimes her head she fondly would aguish

With gaudy garlands, or fresh flow'rets dight,

About her neck, or rings of rushes plight. *Fairy Queen.*

No more shall trenching war channel her fields,

Nor bruise her flow'rets with the armed hoofs

Of hostile pacer. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*

That same dew, which sometime on the buds

Was wont to swell, like round and orient pearls,

Stood now within the pretty flow'ret's eyes,

Like tears that did their own disgrace bewail. *Shakespeare.*

So to the sylvan lodge

They came, that like Pomona's arbour smil'd,

With flow'rets deck'd, and fragrant smells. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

Then laughs the childish year with flow'rets crown'd,

And lavishly perfumes the fields around;

But no substantial nourishment receives,

Infirm the stalks, unolid are the leaves. *Dryden's Fables.*

FLOW'ERGARDEN. *n. f.* [flower and garden.] A garden in

which flowers are principally cultivated.

Observing that this manure produced flowers in the field. I

made my gardener try those shells in my flowergarden, and I

never saw better carnations or flowers. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

FLOW'ERINESS. *n. f.* [from flower.]

1. The state of abounding in flowers.

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## FLU

2. Floridness of speech.

FLOW'ERINGBUSH. *n. f.* A plant.

The leaves are triangular and grassy, the stalks naked, and

the flowers disposed in an umbella upon the top of the stalk,

each consisting of six leaves: three of them are large, and

three small, which are expanded in form of a rose. *Miller.*

FLOW'ERT. *adj.* [from flower.] Full of flowers; adorned with

flowers real or fictitious.

My mother Circe, with the syrens three,

Amidst the flow'ry kirtl'd Naiades. *Milton.*

Day's harbinger

Comes dancing from the East, and leads with her

The flow'ry May, who from her green lap throws

The yellow cowslip and the pale primrose. *Milton.*

O'er his fair limbs a flow'ry vest he threw. *Pope's Odyssey.*

To her the shady grove, the flow'ry field,

The streams and fountains, no delight could yield. *Pope.*

FLOW'INGLY. *adv.* [from flow.] With volubility; with

abundance.

FLOW. *n. f.* [*flake*, Scott.] A flounder; the name of a fish.

Amongst these the flounder, sole, and plaice follow the tide up

into the fresh waters. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall.*

FLOW'ERT. *n. f.* The name of a plant.

FLOWN. Participle of *fly*, or *flew*, they being confounded.

1. Gone away.

For those,

Appointed to sit there, had left their charge,

Flown to the upper world. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. x.*

Where, my deluded sense! was reason flown?

Where the high majesty of David's throne? *Prior.*

2. Puffed; inflated; elate.

And when night

Darkens the streets, then wander forth the sons

Of Belial, flown with insolence and wine. *Milton's P. L.*

FLUCTUANT. *adj.* [*fluctuans*, Latin.] Wavering; uncertain.

To be long for this thing to-day, and for that thing to-morrow;

to change likings for loathings, and to stand wish-

ing and hankering at a venture, how is it possible for any man

to be at rest in this fluctuant wandering humour and opi-

nion? *LeStrange.*

TO FLUCTUATE. *v. n.* [*fluctuo*, Latin.]

1. To roll to and again as water in agitation.

The fluctuating fields of liquid air,

With all the curious meteors how'ring there,

And the wide regions of the land, proclaim

The Pow'r Divine, that rais'd the mighty frame. *Blackmore.*

2. To float backward and forward, as with the motion of water.

3. To move with uncertain and hasty motion.

The tempest

New part puts on; and, as to passion mov'd,

Fluctuates disturb'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*

4. To be in an uncertain state; to feel sudden vicissitudes.

As the greatest part of my estate has been hitherto on an

unsteady and volatile nature, either tost upon seas, or fluctu-

ating in funds, it is now fixed and settled in substantial acres

and tenements. *Addison's Spectator, No. 549.*

5. To be irresolute; to be undetermined.

FLUCTUATION. *n. f.* [*fluctuatio*, Latin; *fluctuation*, French,

from *fluctuo*.]

1. The alternate motion of the water.

Its fluctuations are but motions subservient, which winds,

storms, shores, shelves, and every interagency irregulars.

They were caused by the impulses and fluctuation of water

in the bowels of the earth. *Woodward's Natural History.*

2. Uncertainty; indetermination.

It will not hinder it from making a proselyte of a person,

that loves fluctuation of judgment little enough to be willing

to be ealed of it by any thing but error. *Boyle.*

FLUE. *n. f.* [A word of which I know not the etymology, un-

less it be derived from *flew* of *fly*.]

1. A small pipe or chimney to convey air, heat, or smoke.

2. Soft down or fur, such as may fly in the wind.

FLUE'LIN. *n. f.* The herb SPEEDWELL.

FLUENCY. *n. f.* [from *fluens*.]

1. The quality of flowing; smoothness; freedom from harsh-

ness or asperity.

Fluency of numbers, and most expressive figures for the

poet, morals for the serious, and pleasantries for admirers of

points of wit. *Garth's Preface to Ovid.*

2. Readiness; copiousness; volubility.

Our publick liturgy must be cashiered, the better to please

those men who gloried in their extemporary vein and

fluency. *King Charles.*

Th' unthinking victors vainly boast their pow'r;

Be their's the mulquet, while the tongue is our's!

We reason with such fluency and fire,

The beaux we baffle, and the learned tire. *Tickell.*

The common fluency of speech in many men, and most wo-

men, is owing to a scarcity of matter, and a scarcity of words;

for whoever is a master of language, and hath a mind full of

ideas, will be apt, in speaking, to hesitate upon the choice of

both. *Swift's Thoughts on various Subjects.*

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3. Affluence; abundance. This sense is obsolete.

Those who grow old in fluency and ease,

Behold him tost on seas. *Sandys's Paraphrase on Job.*

God riches and renown to men imparts,

Even all they wish; and yet their narrow hearts

Cannot so great a fluency receive,

But their fruition to a stranger leave. *Sandys.*

FLUENT. *adj.* [*fluens*, Latin.]

1. Liquid.

It is not malleable; but yet is not fluent, but stupified. *Bac.*